

1. Combination comprising a plastic automotive part and a clip house member connected to said part, said clip house member being adapted to provide a mounting attachment to secure said automotive part to a corresponding mounting member of an automotive structural part, said plastic automotive part comprising a top show surface and a side show surface connected to said top show surface and extending away from said top show surface from a juncture formed between said top show surface and said side show surface, said clip house comprising a first support member connected to said plastic automotive part at said juncture.

2. Combination as recited in claim 1 wherein said juncture comprises a rib with a channel formed therein.

3. Combination as recited in claim 1 wherein said clip house comprises a second support member, said second support member connected to said top show surface at a location spaced from said juncture.

4. Combination as recited in claim 3 wherein said clip house further comprises a web connecting said first support member and said second support member.

5. Combination as recited in claim 1 wherein said clip house and said automotive part comprise a unitary molded structure.

6. / Rocker panel comprising the combination of claim 1.

7. A plastic part with integral clip house mounting structure comprising:
a substantially planar horizontal top portion with first and second
longitudinally extending edges;

5 a side portion with a longitudinally extending edge connected to said first longitudinally extending edge of said top portion;

a longitudinally extending reinforcing rib with first and second foot portions connected such that said first foot portion is attached to said top portion near

said first edge of said top portion and said second foot portion is attached to said side portion near said edge such that a longitudinally extending hollow channel is

10 defined; and

said clip house mounting structure further comprises a clip mounting member with an upper portion attached to said second longitudinally extending edge of said top portion and a lower portion attached to said reinforcing rib.

8. A plastic part as in claim 7 wherein said clip house mounting structure further comprises a structural support member with first and second ends and is attached such that said first end connects to said lower portion of said clip mounting member and said second end connects to said reinforcing rib.

9. A plastic part as in claim 8 wherein said clip house mounting structure further comprises a web portion connected to said clip mounting member.

10. A method of making an elongated plastic part for a motor vehicle, said plastic part including a substantially planar horizontal top portion connected to a side portion having a show surface, a hidden surface opposite said show surface, and at least one clip house mounting structure defining at least a clip mounting member for connecting said clip house mounting structure to said hidden surface, comprising the steps of:

a) closing a male mold member with a female mold member to define a mold cavity,

10 i) said male mold member having a mold surface with a substantially planar horizontal top portion and a side portion complementary in shape to said hidden surface, at least a first cavity portion defining a clip mounting member-forming space for forming said clip mounting member, at least a first elongated depression defining a first reinforcing rib-forming space for forming at least a first reinforcing rib along an intersection of said top portion with said side portion, and at least a first sprue, said first reinforcing rib-forming space being in fluid communication with said clip mounting

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- member-forming space and said first sprue being in fluid communication with said first reinforcing rib-forming space; and
- 20 ii) said female mold member defining a mold surface complementary in shape to said show surface, said male and female mold surfaces cooperating to form said mold cavity;
- b) injecting a resin into said mold cavity;
- c) injecting pressurized gas into said first reinforcing rib-forming
- 25 space through said first sprue to generate a gas pressure in said first reinforcing rib-forming space;
- d) solidifying the resin while maintaining said gas pressure to form said rocker panel.
11. The method as recited in claim 10 wherein:
- said male mold member defines a second recess defining a structural support member-forming space for forming a structural support member of said clip house mounting structure and said structural support member-forming space being in
- 5 fluid communication with said sprue.